Healthy Lives, Healthy Planet, Healthy Workplace

FOH's Environmental Health Division can help with office LEED certification



It's hard to live a healthy lifestyle in a world that's environmentally stressed. That makes North American Occupational Safety & Health (NAOSH) Week a good time to consider that Federal Occupational Health (FOH) can help make your workplace both healthier and "greener."

FOH's Environmental Health team is expanding its definition of occupational health to include the environment we live in.

"We have new policies in place that connect the issues of sustainability, environment and health," says Capt. Jeff Church, a senior program manager with Environmental Health. "Those include reducing energy use, water use, waste, and creating greener buildings."

That's why FOH is working with agencies like the Department of Justice and the Indian Health Service to help them get their green on.

One area where FOH is ready to consult is helping Federal agencies obtain LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, awarded when buildings meet strict standards on matters such as energy conservation, water efficiency, healthy indoor environment, and incorporating recycled materials. FOH is glad to help on large or small projects, and can bring in outside consultants when necessary.

For information about how your office can benefit, contact Capt. Church at 301-594-4655 or Jeffrey.church@foh.hhs.gov.